

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/604,854

Examiner

Anabel M. Ton

Applicant(s)

YU ET AL.

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/24/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-25.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 12-25 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art cited does not anticipate individually or teach in combination the following limitations:
 - Kao (6,979,114), although disclosing an LCD housing with a top and bottom housing separable with respect to each other including fastening means (bolts), Kao's filing date in the U.S. is after that of the instant invention. Although Kao has a Taiwanese international filing date of 04/18/03, Kao lacks a filing date under 35 U.S.C. 371 prior to that of the instant invention. Subsequently Kao is not prior art under 35 U.S.C 102(a-g) or 35 U.S.C. 103.
 - Kitada (6,407,781), although disclosing an LCD housing with a removable bottom portion, the bottom portion using screws to attach to a reflector housing within the LCD housing, Kitada does not disclose the following limitations:

At least an optical sheet and a diffusion plate fixed to a backside of a display panel, the optical sheet and diffusion plate forming an upper module with the display panel; a top frame for accommodating and fixing the upper module; a bottom frame positioned below the upper module and fixed to the top frame; a plurality of buffer sheets positioned on portions of surfaces contacting with the lamps and a plurality of fixing elements positioned on the top frame and the bottom frame for detachable connection of the bottom frame to the top frame wherein the backlight unit

is capable of changing the lamps within the bottom frame after removal of the upper module and the bottom frame; (combination of) at least an optical sheet and a diffusion plate fixed to a backside of a display panel, a top frame for accommodating and fixing the upper module with the display panel, a bottom frame positioned below he upper module and fixed to the top frame a plurality of lamps positioned within the bottom frame; and a plurality of screws positioned on the top frame and the bottom frame for detachable connection of the bottom frame and the top frame; wherein the backlight unit is capable of changing the lamps within the bottom frame after removal of the upper module and above the bottom frame; (the combination of) at least an optical sheet and a diffusion plate fixed to a backside of the display panel, the optical sheet and the diffusion plate forming and upper module with the display panel, a top frame for accommodating and fixing the upper module; a bottom frame positioned below the upper module and fixed to the top frame a plurality of external electrode fluorescent lamps positioned within the bottom frame, wherein a conductive clip is positioned at an external electrode of the external electrode fluorescent lamps to simplify procedures of changing the lamps; and a plurality of fixing elements positioned on the top frame and bottom frame for detachable connection of the bottom frame to the top frame; wherein the backlight unit is capable of changing the lamps within the bottom frame after removal of the upper module above the bottom frame.

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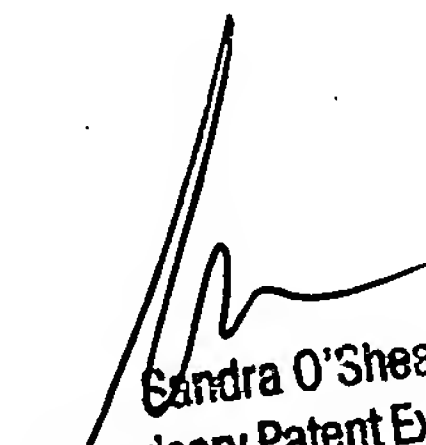
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anabel M. Ton whose telephone number is (571) 272-2382. The examiner can normally be reached on 08:00-16:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Anabel M Ton
Examiner
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Sandra O'Shea
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800

AMT

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